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**ARTICLES**

TO BE

Inquired of by the  
**CHVRCH-VVARDENS**

and **QUESTMEN** of every Parish, in  
the ordinary Visitation of the Right Reverend

Father in God **GEORGE** by divine  
Providence Lord Bishop of

**CLOYNE.** *Synge*

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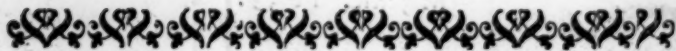
**DUBLIN,**

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The forme of the Oath to be taken by the Church-wardens and Questmen in every Parish immediately before their presentments.

**Y**U, and euery of you shall sweare, that you shall due inquiry and true presentment make according to the Articles giben you in charge, of all such crimes, faults, and defaults, as haue bin committed in your Parish: And of all such persons, as are or haue been vehemently suspected, or defamed to haue committed any such crimes, faults, or defaults. You shall neither present any for hatred, malice, or any other sinister respect, nor spare any for feare, fauour, or reward, but discharge your Consciences, as men fearing God, for the reformation of sinne and wickednesse, and the advancement of godlinesse and Vertue. So helpe you God.





I.

# Concerning Religion

## and Church-governement.

**I**nprimis. Doe you know any that doe refuse to receiue or approue the Articles of Religion agreed upon in the Convocation holden at London, Anno Domini 1562. and receiued here in the Convocation begun at Dublin Anno Domini 1634? or have you heard of any, who have traduced or spoken against the same?

2. Also doe you know or have you heard of any person within your Parish, that doth acknowledge any manner of obedience or subjection to be due to any forrain power in causes Ecclesiasticall? or that either by word or writing hath maintained, that the Kings power within this Realme of Ireland and all other his dominions and countries is not the highest power under God, to whom all men by Gods Lawes owe all loyalty and obedience; and to no other power or potentate upon earth?

3. Are there in your Parish any, who have traduced or spoken against the prescript forme of Divine Service contained in the Book of Common-Prayer? or against the forme of consecrating and ordering our Bishops and other Ministers? or have maintained that the Churches established under this government be not true Churches; or doe refuse to ioyne with them in Christian profession?

4. Is the Lords day, and other Holy dayes appointed by the orders of this Church, duly kept and obserued? And are any other Holy dayes obserued, beside those which are appointed by the Booke of Common Prayer?

I I.

Concerning Parish Churches and Chappels.

1 5. Is your Parish Church or Chappell kept in due reparation; the windowes well glazed, and the floozes kept plaine and even? and is your Church-yard well and sufficiently fenced, and maintained with wals, rayles or pales, as hath bene heretofore accustomed? *and is there any parish ground or other place of annoyance about or near to your Church and wals?*

2 6. Have you in your said Church or Chappell a fit Seate for the Minister to read Divine Service in, a decent Pulpit with a comely Pulpit-Cloth and Cushion, a Font-stone with a cover, a faire Communion Table with a decent Carpet and a faire Linnen-cloth for the covering of the same, a Silber Cup with a cover, and a Swoope or Flagon of Pewter (if not of purer mettall) for the celebration of the holy Communion?

3 7. Have you in your Church or Chappell two Bookes of Common-prayer (one for the Minister, and another for the Clerke) a Bible of the last Translation, the Booke of Canons agreed upon in the Convocation begun at Dublin Anno 1634. and a Table of the degrees of Marriage prohibited by the Lawes of God?

4 8. Have you a sure Coffer, with three Lockes and Keyes (where of one remaineth with the Minister, the other two with the Churchwardens) and a Parchment-booke therein to be kept for the registering of every Chistening, Wedding and Buriall within your Parish? And doth the Minister every Sabbath-day, in the presence of the Churchwardens record in the said booke the names and surnames of all persons chistened in the said Parish (together with the names and surnames of their Parents) and also the names and surnames of all persons married or buried the weeke before; together

ther with the day and yeare of ebery such Parriage, Christning,  
and Buiall?

9. Have you a strong Chest, with a hole in the upper part thereof  
(having three Keyes, to be kept as aforesaid) fastned in the most  
convenient place, that the Parishioners may put therein their  
Almes for their poore neighbours?

10. Doe you know of any that hath shed blood, or stricken, or quar-  
relled with any person in your Church or Church-yard?

11. Are all monuments of idolatry and superstition abolished in  
your Church or Church-yard? Hath there been any prophane usage  
kept therein; either playes, feasts, banquets, Church-Ales, dji-  
nings, exposing any wares to sale, tempoall Courts or Leets, Lay-  
juries, Writters, Commissions (other then for causes Ecclesiasticall)  
playing at Ball, or any other unseemely actions or misbehaviour?

### III.

#### Concerning Ministers.

12. Is the Benefice within your Parish a Personage, Vicarage,  
or Prebend? who is the Incumbent there? What tythes, Glebe-  
lands, or other rights or possessions are thereto belonging? You  
are to bring a true note, or Terrier of the same into the Bishops Re-  
gistry, there to be safely preserved.

13. Doth your Person or Vicar keepe his Parson-house, with all  
the buildings thereunto belonging, in due reparation? Doth he re-  
side, and keepe hospitality therein? If not, where doth hee reside?  
and how, and by whom is the charge supplied?

14. Doth your Person, Vicar or Curate duly ebery Sunday,  
and Holy-day, and other times appointed doe his duty, in reading  
diligently Divine Service, and (as occasion requireth) administering  
the Sacraments; according to the forme prescribed in the Booke of  
Common Prayer?

A 3

15. Doth

15. Doth your Minister begin and end Divine Service at due and convenient houres? and doth he examine and instruct the youth of the Parish every Sunday in the Catechisme set forth in the Booke of Common Prayer, for halfe an houre before Evening Prayer?

16. Doth he, for the fuller information of the people in the body of Christian Religion, divide the heads thereof into so many parts as there are Sundayes in the yeare? and in the handling and explaining thereof doth he use such moderation, that he doth not runne into curious questions and unnecessary controversies, but shortly deliver and confirme the doctrine proposed, and make application thereof to the behowe of the hearers?

17. How many Benefices or Ecclesiasticall promotions hath your Person or Vicar; and how farre distant are they the one from the other? What Chappels hath he to his Cures belonging? by what names are they called? and how and by whom are they served?

18. Doth your Minister preach every Sunday in that Church where he is resident? and if not; doe you know that he hath any just impediment for the same?

19. Doth your Minister teach any vaine opinions, Heresies, or Popish errors, disagreeing from the Articles of Religion generally received in the Churches of England and Ireland? And doe you know or have you heard any Preacher in the Pulpit particularly impugn or confute any doctrine delivered by any other Preacher in the same Church, or in any other neare adjoining; or otherwise make any publike opposition unto him? And have you acquainted the Bishop of the Diocese therewith?

20. Doth your Minister, or Proprietary (if the Benefice be impropriate) allow a competent maintenance to the Curate, who sup-  
plieth that charge: and what doth he allow him? Is the Curate licensed by the Bishop? And how many Churches or Chappels doth he serve in one day; and how farre distant are they one from the other?

11. Hath your Minister denyed or neglected to visit the sick, or  
Chriften or bury any, when he hath bene lawfully and convenient,  
required thereunto? 14

22. Hath he married any in any other place, save in the face of  
the Church; and at any other time, then between the houres of eight  
and twelue in the forenoon? 15

23. Doth your Minister give warning publicly in the Church  
at Morning Prayer the Sunday before the Communion is to be ad-  
ministr'd; to the end the Communicants may the better prepare  
themselves thereunto? or hath he admitted any knowne impenitent  
unjoyous offenders to the participation of the same? And doth he  
celebrate the holy Communion so often, that every Parishioner may  
receiue thrice in the yeare at the least? X

24. Hath he admitted any to be married, or to be Godfather or  
Godmother at the Baptisme of any Childe, or to receive the holy  
Communion; before they can say the Articles of the Beliefe, the  
Lords Prayer, and the Tene Commandements in such a Lan-  
guage as they understand? X

25. Doth your Minister conferre with Recusants within his  
Parish, to seeke to recall them from their ignorance and errours? Is  
his Manners and sober conversation? Or otherwise doth he give him-  
selfe to any base or servile labour, to playing at Dice, Cards or  
Tables, or any other game unbecoming his function? Is he a  
common resorter to Tavernes or Alehouses, a great drinker, a dis-  
commodious person, a knowne Usurer, a quarrellous or contentious  
person, or otherwise defamed? Doth hee also goe gravely and de-  
cently in his apparell; according as the Canons doe prescribe? X 16

### IIII.

#### Concerning the Parishioners.

26. Are there any in your Parish, who are suspected to be of no  
Religion, more Atheists, not adhering to any Church? or any that  
wilfully maintaine and defend any heresie, error or opinion  
contra- X

for the Lord's Day or: or in any 4<sup>th</sup>



contrary to the Word of God : and have any gone about to seduce others from the truth of Religion taught & professed in our Church

18  
27. Are there in your Parish any, who seeme to profess the faith and Religion of our Church, and formerly did frequent the Church and heare Divine service according to the Book of Common-prayer that doe now refuse or neglect diligently to frequent their Parish Church, and there reverently and devoutly to attend Gods Service and receive the holy Communion thrice in the yeare at the least, as it is required? Especially, you are to present the names of those, who have not communicated at Easter last.

19  
28. Are there in your Parish any, that (in contempt of their owne Parish Church) doe resort to any other Church or Chappell?

20  
29. Are there in your Parish any, who upon the Sunday, or other allowed holy dayes, doe use their manuell labour : or any that Buy, or Sell, or frequent Tavernes and Ale houses in time of Divine Service and preaching upon those dayes, and at those times?

21  
30. Is there in your Parish any, that hath disturbed or hindered the Minister in the time of Divine Service or Sermon, or otherwise offended the people by walking, talking, laughing, or any other noise or clamour? Or that bying to the Church with them Hawkes with bells, or ill nurtured childezen which cannot bee kept quiet in their seats without running up and downe?

22  
31. Have there any Bastards or base begotten childezen bene borne, or are nursed within your Parish since the last Visitation? Present the names of the reputed Parents.

23  
32. Are there any in your Parish that live together as Man and Wife, and yet are vehemently suspected not to bee married, or to have another Husband or Wife?

24  
33. Are there any in your Parish, who being under the government of their Parents or others, have made privy Contracts of Fornication; not calling thereunto two or more witnesses, nor having



the consent of their Parents, or such others under whose goverment they are?

34. Are there any in your Parish married within the degrees prohibited? or without their Bannes thrice solemnely published in their Parish Church, upon three severall Sundayes or Holydayes; or a licence first had from the Ordinary? or at any other time, then betwene the houres of eight and twelve in the forenoon?

35. What married persons in your Parish have bene divorced, and since married with others, for these three yeares last past? By whose sentence were they divorced; and by whose licence, and by whom were they so married? Declare your knowledge in the premises, and what you have credibly heard.

36. Are there any in your Parish which are excommunicated? and how long have they stood so? Are there any who are reputed, or knowne to be common Drunkards, Swearers, Blasphemers, Incestuous persons, Adulterers, Fornicators, Bawdes, Perjured persons, Extortioners, or Oppressors; Common Scolds, Brawlers, Slanderers, Spake-bates, Sowers of discord betwene party and party, especially betwene Man and Wife? Or that have used Charmes, Spels, Sorcery or Witchcraft; or are guilty of any other notorious offence belonging to Ecclesiasticall cognisance, or are suspected or defamed to be guilty of the same?

37. Hath any person within your Parish contemned, or abused by word or deed, any Minister of the Church?

38. Doe any in your Parish deny or detain their payment duly rated towards the reparation and furnishing of the Church, or any other necessary pious use?

39. What persons in your Parish, having Goods or Chattels, have died since the last Visitation?

40. Have any within your Parish medled with the Goods or

29 Chattels of parties deceased, without licence first had by letters of administration or otherwise from the Ordinary?

30 41. Doe you know in your Parish any Executors of the goods of persons deceased, that have detained any Orphans goods, or Legacies bequeathed or appointed for the repairing of Churches or Highways, finding of poore Schollers, marrying of poore Maydens, or such other Charitable deeds; and not employed the said Goods or Legacies according to their authority given and charge entoynd.

V.

Concerning Parish-Clearkes, Church-wadens, and Schoole-masters.

31 42. Is your Parish Clarke of competent age and skill for the executing of his office? Is he resident, and doth he diligently performe his duty in his owne person? Is he conformable to the Orders of the Church, and of honest life and sober conversation?

43. Were your Church-wardens and Sidemen duely chosen at the time, and after the manner appointed; namely upon Monday or Tuesday in Easter weeke, by the joynt consent of the Spinister and Parishioners? or otherwise, the one by the Spinister, and the other by the Parishioners? And were they sworne the next Confraternity day after their election befoze the Bishop or his Chancelor? Or are there any so chosen, who have refused to undertake that Office?

32 44. Have the former Church-wardens, at the going forth out of their Office, given up a true account of what moneys they have received and disbursed? Have they brought in a Register of all Christenings, Marriages and Burials, within the yeare of their Office; that the same may faithfully be preserved in the Bishops Registry?

33 45. Doe the Church-wardens, with the advice and direction of the Spinister, provide against every Communion a sufficient quantitie of fine white Bread, and of good and wholesome Wine, for the number

ber of the Communicants that shall from time to time receive? And  
doe they performe all other duties, aswell in the Church as without,  
required of them by the Canons and Constitutions of this Church?

46. What Schoole-masters or Ministers have you in your Parish,  
who teach Schoole either publickly or privately without Licence; and  
by whom are they harboured?

34

47. Is there in your Parish any other matter or cause of  
the Cognisance of the Church, above not expessed, worthy  
presentment in your iudgement? If any such matter or cause  
there be; you are charged likewise to present the same, as you  
are the rest, by vertue of your Oath.

35

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FINIS.

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